## AMERICA'S ARMY: THE STRENGTH OF THE NATION™



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Predictions that the post-Cold War world, rather than representing "the end of history," would instead become an era of persistent conflict appear to be chillingly accurate. We are now engaged with a brutal, ruthless, often faceless adversary who adapts quickly, fights unconventionally, and has no qualms about turning civilian centers into battlefields. Conflicts will be waged on the ground, in the air, and in the seas, but they remain struggles between, among, and for the allegiance of people. They will, therefore, primarily be conducted, won, and ultimately concluded on the land. Landpower – the ability to achieve decisive results on land – will remain central to any national security strategy.



At The Army Exhibit, you will learn how the Army is preparing to meet the challenges facing our Nation. You'll be moved and informed by compelling speakers, subject matter experts, multi-media presentations and interactive workshops. And you will peer into the faces of everyday heroes: our Soldiers, who are the centerpiece of America's Army – Active, Guard, and Reserve – their Families, Army Civilians, Retirees and Veterans. These are the faces of those who embody everything that is best, strongest and most enduring about our country.

We have never had better-trained, better-led, or better-equipped Soldiers than we do today. In their faces we see reflected immense pride, spirit and know-how. These are more than just our sons and daughters, our spouses, our parents, our neighbors and friends – they are our strength, and they are increasingly "The Strength of the Nation."

#### **WARRIOR'S CORNER**

At Warrior's Corner, visitors will encounter "Communities of Strength," where four Army Communities (Fort Hood, Fort Stewart, Minnesota National Guard and the North Carolina Army Reserve) will describe how they have drawn strength from their surrounding communities. Also, individual Soldiers, Families and Army Civilians – our "Faces of Strength" – will provide first-person accounts of service to a Nation at war.

#### AMERICA'S ARMY IN AN ERA OF PERSISTENT CONFLICT

Looking ahead, we can expect a strategic environment in which change is the norm and persistent conflict is the order of the day. By persistent conflict, we refer to protracted conflict among states, non-states and individual actors who are willing to use violence to advance their agendas. These operations will be conducted in complex environments and will test the capabilities of our Nation. Global trends contributing to this era of persistent conflict will be:

- Globalization
- Technology
- Radicalism
- Population GrowthResource Competition
- Climate Change and Natural Disasters
- Proliferation of Weapons of
- Mass Destruction
   Failed or Failing States

We face two major challenges to ensure our continued success – *Restoring Balance* to a force feeling the cumulative effects of seven years of war and *Setting the Conditions for the Future*. Our success postures the Army to fulfill our strategic role as an integral element of Landpower and successfully conduct full spectrum operations in this era of persistent conflict. We are on the right track and have accomplished much on both fronts. However, we will not get to where we want to be for a couple of years yet.

Four imperatives frame our plan to restore balance and prepare for the future:

#### Sustain

To sustain our forces, we are recruiting men and women of top quality and giving them the training they need to transform into the flexible and adaptive Warriors who will succeed in any environment. At the same time, we are improving the physical, mental and economic support our Soldiers and Families deserve and need.

#### Prepare

To prepare our fighting forces to defeat our enemies in any environment, we are providing them with the training and equipment they'll need. We are also accelerating the growth of the Army while reducing the time units spend deployed in theater. These preparations, combined with our Soldiers' courage, ingenuity, leadership and fighting spirit, will enable them to prevail in any environment, no matter how complex.

#### Reset

To continue to *reset* our Soldiers, units, and equipment so they will be prepared for future deployments and contingencies, we are urgently repairing and replacing equipment that has been worn or damaged during seven years of war. We will sustain the pace for as long as necessary. We are also working to retain and revitalize our Soldiers through effective care and transition programs.

#### Transform

To continue to *transform* our Army into a superior 21st century fighting force, we are growing our forces; upgrading and modernizing them so they are and continue to be a versatile agile, lethal, sustainable, and interoperable force made up of modular units; continuing to make the systematic changes needed to field an expeditionary Army; and adapting our Reserve Component units for cyclical, rather than just national emergency use; and developing and promoting leaders with the insight and adaptability to prevail in a wide variety of combat and non-combat missions.



#### STRONG NATION, STRONG FACES

Visitors to The Army Exhibit are able to view two powerful and gripping video presentations. "America's Army: The Strength of the Nation" is a compelling, sometimes harrowing survey of the era of persistent conflict into which we have entered and of the strong, valiant men and women who stand between us and the forces of anarchy and chaos. "Faces of Strength" is an unforgettable up-close and personal encounter with some of the Army Family's "everyday heroes," who have always answered their country's call with selfless service and unflinching strength.

In the waiting area just outside of the theater entrance is the Gallery of Heroes, a continuous multi-media presentation honoring the most exemplary heroes of this war. The stories of the Soldiers awarded the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, and the Silver Star since September 11, 2001 are played across this large screen...silent and moving illustrations that Army Strong and Strength of the Nation are more than mere slogans.

"These men and women ask for little, yet they inspire so much. They ask for only the gratitude of a grateful nation, and yet they inspire the commitment of the values and ideals on which this country was founded."

- GEN George W. Casey, Jr. Chief of Staff, Army

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The 2008 AUSA Annual Meeting & Exhibition has more than 500 Exhibits. Only one exhibit provides the foundation and context for the rest.

### The Army Exhibit is The Best Place to Start.

The Army Exhibit – **Booth 1725** 

October 6-8, 2008 at the Washington Convention Center

Warrior's Corner: Face to Face with Army Strong

Gallery of Heroes: Honoring the Strong

Theater: America's Army: The Strength of the Nation (2008)

Theater: Faces of Strength

Workshop: Army Community Covenant

**Workshop:** Our Army – Your Story

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